

STATUS PRIOR TO AMENDMENT

The above-captioned patent application is pending.

Claims 1-14 are pending in the application.

Claims 1-3, 6-8 and 10-14 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Leehey (U.S. Patent No. 2,926,623).

Claims 4 and 5 are rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leehey in view of Warner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,345,538).

Claim 9 is rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Leehey in view of Sachs (U.S. Patent No. 4,056,074).

SUMMARY OF USPTO FEES ENCLOSED HEREWITH

1. Extension of Time

A separate petition for an extension of time of three (3) months up to and including February 16, 2007, to respond to the outstanding Office Action, along with the appropriate fee for a small entity of \$510, is enclosed herewith.

2. Excess Claims Fees

Claims fees for twenty (20) total claims and three (3) independent claims have been submitted. This response and amendment results in one (1) total claim and one (1) independent claim. As such, no additional fees are due.

3. Request for Continued Examination

A Request for Continued Examination, along with the appropriate fee for a small entity of \$395, is enclosed herewith.

It is believed these fees are correct; however, the Commissioner for Patents is authorized to charge any additional fees to Deposit Account No. 50-1429.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.-14. (canceled)

15. (new) A planing watercraft, of the type with fully planing or semi-planing bottom, comprising: a single lifting device constrained to said watercraft at a predetermined distance from the bottom and suitable to increase the hydrodynamic lift on said fully planing or semi-planing bottom, said single lifting device comprising at least one transversal element having an upper surface that faces said bottom and a lower surface opposite to said upper surface, said transversal element being subject to a lifting force perpendicular to said lower surface owing to the difference of pressure between the two surfaces when it is located in a flow, wherein said transversal element is arranged below said bottom at the barycenter of said watercraft or slightly shifted with respect to the barycenter of said watercraft, said watercraft during its fully planing or semi-planing travel having one portion of said bottom dipped in water, said watercraft being sustained partially by said portion of bottom dipped in water and partially by said single lifting device.